PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Prior Application:

Jun CAO

Group Art Unit: 2667

Serial No.: Continuation of

Examiner: Alexander O. Boakye

09/241,658

Attorney Dkt. No.: 58268.00367

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: BIT SLICE ARBITER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 20, 2004

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows. This Preliminary Amendment complies with the amendment format as set forth in 68 Fed. Reg. 38611 dated June 30, 2003.

Amendments to the specification are submitted on page 2.

Amendments to the claims are submitted on page 3.

Remarks are submitted on page 12.